



Grazing Management CSP Enhancement

Conservation Practice Job Sheet

- ☐ Improve grazing management by utilizing the pasture condition score (PSC) on a seasonal basis to improve grazing management.

This enhancement monitors pasture trends and responses to management. Pasture condition scoring is a systematic way to evaluate key management indicators. Numeric values are assigned to key indicators. Increasing scores indicate pasture improvement. A decreasing or low condition scores can be identified, such as poor plant growth, weedy species invasion, poor animal performance, visible soil loss, increased runoff and impaired water quality using the pasture condition scoring. Repetitive scoring is needed to evaluate management decisions. Pasture condition scoring needs to be done in conjunction with good pasture records.

The producer will complete the USDA NRCS Grazing Lands Technology Institute Pasture Condition Score Sheet on each grazing management system or management unit at least three times a year per paddock. Score sheet should be done during: early green-up March-April; rapid growth May-June; summer growth July-August; fall growth September-October; the management will be altered to maintain or increase the overall pasture condition score.

The Pasture Condition Score Sheets must be kept for the duration of the contract and can be requested to be seen at anytime by the NRCS office.

The Pasture Condition Score Sheet can be downloaded from the Pennsylvania NRCS website.